IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

Applicant:	Hauser et al.	
Serial No.:	Not Yet Assigned)	Examiner: unassigned
Filed:	October 30, 2003	Group Art Unit: unassigned
Title:	Hydrostatic Transmission)	No.: 36400.01US24

<u>(37 C.F.R. §1.97(b)(3)</u>

Commissioner for Patents P.O. Box 1450 Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

Dear Sir:

· K C po .

With regard to the above-identified application, pursuant to 37 C.F.R. §1.56, the items of information listed on the enclosed Form PTO/SB/08a are brought to the attention of the Examiner.

This statement should be considered because it is being submitted with this application; therefore, no fee is required.

In accordance with 37 C.F.R. §1.98(d), copies of U.S. patents and other art listed on the enclosed forms PTO/SB/08A and PTO/SB/08B which were previously cited by or submitted to the Office with the previously filed applications, of which the current application is a continuation, are not enclosed. The previously filed application upon which the current application relies for an earlier filing date under 35 U.S.C. § 120 is:

U.S. Patent Application Serial No. 10/243,368, filed September 13, 2002, which is a continuation of U.S. Patent Application Serial No. 09/880,587 (Patent No. 6550243), filed June 13, 2001; which is a continuation of U.S. Patent Application Serial No. 09/846,545, filed on May

1, 2001; which is a continuation of Serial No. 09/420,183 (Patent No. 6,256,988), filed October

18, 1999; which is a continuation of 09/016,584 (Patent No. 6,014,861), filed January 30, 1998;

which is a continuation of Serial No. 08/644,474 (Patent No. 5,768,892), filed May 10, 1996;

which is a continuation of Serial No. 08/613,371 (Patent No. 5,616,092), filed March 11, 1996;

which is a continuation of Serial No. 08/260,807 (Patent No. 5,501,640), filed June 16, 1994;

which is a continuation of Serial No. 08/025,272 (Patent No. 5,330,394), filed March 2, 1993;

which is a division of Serial No. 07/917,858 (Patent No. 5,314,387), filed July 22, 1992; which is

a continuation-in-part of Serial No. 07/727,463 (Patent No. 5,201,692), filed July 9, 1991.

In accordance with 37 C.F.R. §1.104, no representation is made that a reference

is "prior art" within the meaning of 35 U.S.C. §§102 and 103 and Applicant reserves the

right, pursuant to 37 C.F.R. §1.131 or otherwise, to establish that the reference(s) are

not "prior art." Moreover, Applicant does not represent that a reference has been

thoroughly reviewed or that any relevance of any portion of a reference is intended.

Consideration of the items listed is respectfully requested. Pursuant to the

provisions of MPEP 609, it is requested that the Examiner return a copy of the attached

Form PTO/SB/08a, marked as being considered and initialed by the Examiner, to the

undersigned with the next official communication.

Respectfully submitted,

Date: Nov. 6

والمسرارية مسكات

Thomas C. McDonough

Registration No. 33,734

NEAL, GERBER & EISENBERG LLP

2 North LaSalle Street, Suite 2200

Chicago, Illinois 60602

(312) 269-5282

s	ubstitute for form 1449A/PTO			Ci	mplete if Known
			Application Number		
	NEORMATION DISC	CLC	SURE	Filing Date	
	INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT BY APPLICANT			First Named Inventor	Raymond M. Hauser
	SIAILMLNI DI AI		IOAII I	Art Unit	
	(Use as many sheets as ned	essarv)	Examiner Name	
She		of	4	Attorney Docket Number	36400.01US24

			U. S. PATENT	DOCUMENTS	
Examiner Initials*	Cite No. ¹	Document Number Number-Kind Code ^{2 (if known)}	Publication Date MM-DD-YYYY	Name of Patentee or Applicant of Cited Document	Pages, Columns, Lines, Where Relevant Passages or Relevant Figures Appear
		^{US-} 6,014,861	01/18/2000	Hauser et al	
		US- 5.950.102	09/14/1999	Okada	
	<u> </u>	US- 5,768,892	06/23/1998	Hauser et al	
		^{US-} 5,616,092	04/01/1997	Hauser et al	
		US- 5,545,102	08/1996	Burgman et al	
		US- 5,533,943	07/1996	Ichioka et al	
		^{US-} 5,513,717	05/07/1996	Louis et al	
		^{US-} 5,501,640	03/26/1996	Hauser et al	
		^{US-} 5,493,862	02/27/1996	Folsum	
		^{US-} 5,435,790	07/1995	Kota et al	
		^{US-} 5,330,394	07/19/1994	Hauser et al	
		^{US-} 5,317,936	06/07/1994	Shiba et al	
		US- 5,314,387	05/24/1994	Hauser et al	
		US- 5,289,738	03/01/1994	Szulczewski	
		^{US-} 5,218,886	06/15/1993	Louis et al	
		US- 5,203,168	04/20/1993	Oshina et al	
		^{US-} 5,201,692	04/13/1993	Johnson et al	
		^{US-} 5,156,576	10/20/1992	Johnson	

	FOREIGN PATENT DOCUMENTS									
Examiner Initials*	Cite No.1	Foreign Patent Document Country Code 3-Number 4-Kind Code 5 (if known)	Publication Date MM-DD-YYYY	Name of Patentee or Applicant of Cited Document	Pages, Columns, Lines, Where Relevant Passages or Relevant Figures Appear	T ⁶				
-										

Examiner	Date	
	Conside	hand
Signature	Collaide	iieu
• •		

*EXAMINER: Initial if reference considered, whether or not citation is in conformance with MPEP 609. Draw line through citation if not in conformance and not considered. Include copy of this form with next communication to applicant. Applicant's unique citation designation number (optional). See Kinds Codes of USPTO Patent Documents at www.uspto.gov or MPEP 901.04. Enter Office that issued the document, by the two-letter code (WIPO Standard ST.3). For the conformance and not considered, whether or not citation is in conformance with MPEP 609. Draw line through citation if not in conformance and not considered. Include copy of this form with the citation is in conformance with MPEP 609. Draw line through citation if not in conformance and not considered. Include copy of this form with next communication to applicant. Applicant's unique citation designation number (optional). See Kinds Codes of USPTO Patent Documents at www.uspto.gov or MPEP 901.04. See Kinds Codes of USPTO Patent Documents at www.uspto.gov or MPEP 901.04. See Kinds Codes of USPTO Patent Documents at www.uspto.gov or MPEP 901.04. See Kinds Codes of USPTO Patent Documents at www.uspto.gov or MPEP 901.04. See Kinds Codes of USPTO Patent Documents at www.uspto.gov or MPEP 901.04. See Kinds Codes of USPTO Patent Documents at www.uspto.gov or MPEP 901.04. See Kinds Codes of USPTO Patent Documents at www.uspto.gov or MPEP 901.04. See Kinds Codes of USPTO Patent Documents at www.uspto.gov or waspto. Japanese patent documents, the indication of the year of the reign of the Emperor must precede the serial number of the patent document. ⁵ Kind of document by the appropriate symbols as indicated on the document under WIPO Standard ST.16 if possible. ⁶ Applicant is to place a check mark here if English language

Under the Paperwork Reduction Act of 1995, no persons are required to respond to a collection of information unless it contains a valid OMB control number.

Substitute for form 1449A/PTO		Compl te if Known			
				Application Number	
IN	FORMATION DISC	CL ()	SURF	Filing Date	
STATEMENT BY APPLICANT				First Named Inventor	Raymond M. Hauser
0	IAILMLMI DI AI	: LI		Art Unit	Traymona W. Haaser
	(Use as many sheets as nec	essarv)		Examiner Name	
Sheet	2	of	41	Attorney Docket Number	36400.01US24

	0.4		U. S. PATENT		
Examiner Initials*	Cite No.1	Document Number	Publication Date MM-DD-YYYY	Name of Patentee or Applicant of Cited Document	Pages, Columns, Lines, Where Relevant Passages or Relevant
	ļ	Number-Kind Code ^{2 (if known)}		7,	Figures Appear
		^{US-} 5,142,940	09/01/1992	Hasegawa	
		^{US-} 5,078,659	01/07/1992	Von Kaler et al	
		US- 5,067,933	11/1991	Hardesty et al	
		^{US-} 5,031,403	07/16/1991	Okada	
		^{US-} 4,992,780	02/12/1991	Fujisaki et al	
		^{US-} 4,987,796	01/29/1991	Von Kaler et al	
		^{US-} 4,979,583	12/25/1990	Thoma et al	
		^{US-} 4,967,861	11/1990	Oyama et al	
		^{US-} 4,959,043	09/25/1990	Klotz et al	
		^{US-} 4,953,426	09/04/1990	Johnson	-
		^{US-} 4,942,780	07/24/1990	Fujisaki et al	
		^{US-} 4,932,209	06/12/1990	Okada	
		^{US-} 4,922,787	05/08/1990	Fujisaki et al	
		^{US-} 4,914,907	04/10/1990	Okada	
•		^{US-} 4,903,545	02/27/1990	Louis et al	
		^{US-} 4,899,541	02/13/1990	Okada et al	
		^{US-} 4,893,524	01/16/1990	Ohasi et al	
		^{US-} 4,891,943	01/09/1990	Okada	

_	FOREIGN PATENT DOCUMENTS								
Examiner Initials*	Cite No. ¹	Foreign Patent Document Country Code 3-Number 4-Kind Code 5 (if known)	Publication Date MM-DD-YYYY	Name of Patentee or Applicant of Cited Document	Pages, Columns, Lines, Where Relevant Passages or Relevant Figures Appear	тв.			
						-			
			-			-			

Examiner Date Considered			
Signature Considered Considered	Examiner		
	Signature	Considered	

^{*}EXAMINER: Initial if reference considered, whether or not citation is in conformance with MPEP 609. Draw line through citation if not in conformance and not considered. Include clopy of this form with next communication to applicant. Applicant's unique citation designation number (optional). See Kinds Codes of USPTO Patent Documents at www.uspto.gov or MPEP 901.04. Enter Office that issued the document, by the two-letter code (WIPO Standard ST.3). For Japanese patent documents, the indication of the year of the reign of the Emperor must precede the serial number of the patent document. Skind of document by the appropriate symbols as indicated on the document under WIPO Standard ST.16 if possible. Applicant is to place a check mark here if English language Translation is attached.

Under the Paperwork Reduction Act of 1995, no persons are required to respond to a collection of information unless it contains a valid OMB control number

Sul	bstitute for form 1449A/PTO	_		Coi	nplete if Known	
				Application Number		
11	NFORMATION DIS	CLO	SURF	Filing Date	· · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · ·	
	STATEMENT BY A	-		First Named Inventor	Raymond M. Hauser	
	JIAILINEN DI A	. —		Art Unit		
	(Use as many sheets as ne	cessarv)		Examiner Name		
Sheet		of	4	Attorney Docket Number	36400.01US24	

			U. S. PATENT	DOCUMENTS	
Examiner Initials*	Cite No. ¹	Document Number Number-Kind Code ^{2 (if known)}	Publication Date MM-DD-YYYY	Name of Patentee or Applicant of Cited Document	Pages, Columns, Lines, Where Relevant Passages or Relevant Figures Appear
		^{US-} 4,870,820	10/03/1989	Nemoto	
		^{US-} 4,864,890	09/12/1989	Friedrich et al	
		^{US-} 4,862,767	09/05/1989	Hauser	
		^{US-} 4,856,372	08/15/1989	Williams	
		^{US-} 4,856,368	08/15/1989	Fujisaki et al	
		^{US-} 4,856,264	08/15/1989	Nishimura et al	
		^{US-} 4,779,699	10/1998	Hatano	
		US- 4,756,208	07/12/1988	Hayashi	
		^{US-} 4,691,512	09/08/1987	Thoma et al	
		^{US-} 4,686,829	08/18/1987	Thomas et al	
		US- 4,633,979	01/06/1987	Edwards	
		^{US-} 4,480,501	11/05/1984	Von Kaler	
		^{US-} 4,221,138	09/09/1980	Stewart et al	
		^{US-} 4,147,075	04/03/1979	Rasman et al	
		^{US-} 4,145,883	03/27/1979	Forster	
		^{US-} 3,834,164	09/1974	Ritter	
		^{US-} 3,751,924	08/1973	Brown et al	
		^{US-} 3,750,533	08/1973	Thoma	

	FOREIGN PATENT DOCUMENTS								
Examiner Initials*	Cite No. ¹	Foreign Patent Document Country Code ³⁻ Number ⁴⁻ Kind Code ⁵ (if known)	Publication Date MM-DD-YYYY	Name of Patentee or Applicant of Cited Document	Pages, Columns, Lines, Where Relevant Passages or Relevant Figures Appear	T ⁶			
						ļ			
		· · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · ·			· · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · ·	-			
						-			

			
Examiner		Date	
Signature		Conside	red

*EXAMINER: Initial if reference considered, whether or not citation is in conformance with MPEP 609. Draw line through citation if not in conformance and not considered. Include copy of this form with next communication to applicant. Applicant's unique citation designation number (optional). See Kinds Codes of USPTO Patent Documents at www.uspto.gov or MPEP 901.04. Enter Office that issued the document, by the two-letter code (WIPO Standard ST.3). For Japanese patent documents, the indication of the year of the reign of the Emperor must precede the serial number of the patent document. Skind of document by the appropriate symbols as indicated on the document under WIPO Standard ST.16 if possible. Applicant is to place a check mark here if English language Translation is attached.

Under the Paperwork Reduction Act of 1995, no persons are required to respond to a collection of information unless it contains a valid OMB control number.

di

	Substitute for	or form 1449A/PTO		· · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · ·	Complete if Known			
					Application Number			
	INFO	RMATION D	ISCL OS	SURF	Filing Date			
		TEMENT BY			First Named Inventor	Raymond M. Hauser		
	O I A				Art Unit	Traymona W. Hauser		
		(Use as many sheets a	s necessary)		Examiner Name	***		
Sh	eet	4	of	4.	Attorney Docket Number	36400.01US24		

Examiner Initials*	Cite	Document Number	Publication Date	Name of Patentee or	Pages, Columns, Lines, Where
muais	No.1	Number-Kind Code ^{2 (if known)}	MM-DD-YYYY	Applicant of Cited Document	Relevant Passages or Relev Figures Appear
		^{US-} 3,748,851	07/1973	Hauser	
		US- 3.424.032	01/1969	Ritter	
		^{US-} 3,411,296	04/1966	Peterson	
		US- 3,385,058	05/1968	Root et al	
		^{US-} 3,279,172	10/1966	Kudo et al	
		US- 2,651,216	09/1953	Alden	
		US- 2,546,969	04/1951	Buckendale	
		^{US-} 2,210,594	06/1938	Alden	· · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · ·
		^{US-} 1,802,545	04/1931	Acker	
		US- 1,657,091	01/1928	Morgan	
		^{US-} 1,487,563	03/1924	Hawley	
		^{US-} 1,461,102	07/1923	Sternberg	
		^{US-} 649,020	05/1900	Upton	
		^{US-} 4,893,524	01/1990	Ohashi et al	
		^{US-} 4,903,545	02/1990	Louis et al	
		US-			
		US-			
		US-			

FOREIGN PATENT DOCUMENTS								
Examiner Initials*	Cite No. ¹	Foreign Patent Document Country Code 3-Number 4-Kind Code 5 (if known)	Publication Date MM-DD-YYYY	Name of Patentee or Applicant of Cited Document	Pages, Columns, Lines, Where Relevant Passages or Relevant Figures Appear	T ⁶		

Examiner	Date	
Signature	Considered	·
- 3		

*EXAMINER: Initial if reference considered, whether or not citation is in conformance with MPEP 609. Draw line through citation if not in conformance and not considered. Include copy of this form with next communication to applicant. Applicant's unique citation designation number (optional). See Kinds Codes of USPTO Patent Documents at www.uspto.gov or MPEP 901.04. There office that issued the document, by the two-letter code (WIPO Standard ST.3). For Japanese patent documents, the indication of the year of the reign of the Emperor must precede the serial number of the patent document. Kind of document by the appropriate symbols as indicated on the document under WIPO Standard ST.16 if possible. Applicant is to place a check mark here if English language Translation is attached.

Under the Paperwork Reduction Act of 1995, no persons are required to respond to a collection of information unless it contains a valid OMB control number.

Substitute for fo	m 1449B/PTO			Complete if Known			
				Application Number			
INFORI	MATION [DISCLOS	SURE	Filing Date			
STATEMENT BY APPLICANT				First Named Inventor	Raymond M. Hauser		
				Art Unit			
(U	se as many sheets	as necessary)		Examiner Name			
Sheet	1	of	1	Attorney Docket Number	36400.01US24		

NON PATENT LITERATURE DOCUMENTS							
Examiner Initials*	Cite No.1	Cite No. Include name of the author (in CAPITAL LETTERS), title of the article (when appropriate), title of the item (book, magazine, journal, serial, symposium, catalog, etc.), date, page(s), volume-issue number(s), publisher, city and/or country where published.					
		"Kanzaki Transaxle" advertisement (no date)					
		EATON "Hydrostatic Transaxle Series 1150" September, 1984					
		"TRW Ross Torqdrive Axle" (no date)					
	\ \						
			\equiv				

-			
Examiner	Date		
Signature	Consi	dered	

^{*}EXAMINER: Initial if reference considered, whether or not citation is in conformance with MPEP 609. Draw line through citation if not in conformance and not considered. Include copy of this form with next communication to applicant.

¹ Applicant's unique citation designation number (optional). 2 Applicant is to place a check mark here if English language Translation is attached. This collection of information is required by 37 CFR 1.97 and 1.98. The information is required to obtain or retain a benefit by the public which is to file (and by the USPTO to process) an application. Confidentiality is governed by 35 U.S.C. 122 and 37 CFR 1.14. This collection is estimated to take 2 hours to complete, including gathering, preparing, and submitting the completed application from to the USPTO. Time will vary depending upon the individual case. Any comments on the amount of time you require to complete this form and/or suggestions for reducing this burden should be sent to the Chief Information Officer, U.S. Patent and Trademark Office, U.S. Department of Commerce, P.O. Box 1450, Alexandria, VA 22313-1450. DO NOT SEND FEES OR COMPLETED FORMS TO THIS ADDRESS. SEND TO: Commissioner f r Patents, P.O. Box 1450, Alexandria, VA 22313-1450.